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Message Text

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NODIS
CHEROKEE FOR AMBASSADOR

FOL RPT GENEVA 8688 ACTION SECSTATE 03 NOV QUOTE

S E C R E T GENEVA 8688

NODIS/CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SCHAUFELE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, RH, UK
SUBJ: RHODESIAN CONFERENCE: NOV 3 MEETING WITH RICHARD

1. I JOINED RICHARD, DUFF AND GRENNAN THIS MORNING AT 9:00 A.M. TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE INTER-DELEGATION MEETING OF NOV 2.

2. RICHARD CONFIRMED SMITH'S ACCOUNT OF THE PREVIOUS DAY'S MEETING AND SAID THAT WHILE SMITH HAD ADOPTED AN EXTREMELY RIGID POSITION AT THE OUTSET OF THE MEETING, ONCE HENRY STEEL HAD TABLED HIS CONSITUTIONAL AND ELECTORAL SCHEDULE SMITH BECAME MUCH MORE REASONABLE AND THE MEETING SETTLED
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INTO A FRUITFUL DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED WITH

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AFRICANS AND SMITH ACTUALLY TALKING TO EACH OVER THE TABLE.

3. THE AFRICANS HAD ARGUED IN FAVOR OF A 12 MONTH
PERIOD BUT AGREED TO EXAMINE THE STEEL SCHEDULE
AND RECONVENE AT AN EXPERT LEVEL THE MORNING OF NOV 3.
THE CHIEFS OF DELEGATION WILL RECONVENE IN THE AFTERNOON.
THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION OF MAJORITY
RULE AND THE FRANCHISE, AND RICHARD INTENDS TO KEEP
THAT QUESTION OFF THE AGENDA.

4. SMITH, DAVID SMITH AND SQUIRES CALLED ON
RICHARD FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF IN THE EVENING. THE
SESSION WAS AFFABLE AND FRUITFUL. RICHARD CONTINUED
TO PRESS ON SMITH THE URGENCY HE HAD ATTACHED TO
PINNING DOWN THE DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE, AND SMITH
AND HIS PARTY DISCUSSED THE QUESTION IN A RELAXED
AND REASONABLE WAY. RICHARD CONCLUDES THAT THE
RHODESIANS MAY WELL AGREE ON A DATE BUT HE IS NOT
SURE WHAT NEGOTIATING INSTRUCTIONS SMITH WILL LEAVE
FOR SQUIRES AND VAN DER BYL. SMITH ASSURED
RICHARD HE COULD RETURN TO GENEVA IN 24 HOURS.

5. THE NEXT ITEM ON THE CONFERNECE AGENDA, ACCORDING
TO RICHARD, IS THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE
INTERIM GOVERNMENT. HE HAS REQUESTED PAPER FROM
EACH OF THE AFRICAN DELEGATIONS WHICH HE PLANS TO
CIRCULATE TO THE OTHER DELEGATIONS FOR COMMENTS.
HE DOES NOT THINK SMITH WILL PROVIDE A PAPER AT THIS
STAGE. MUZOREWA HAS SUBMITTED A DOCUMENT FOR
RICHARD'S PRIVATE REVIEW IN WHICH HE ARGUED FOR
A DELAY IN THE CONFERENCE FOR THREE MONTHS WHILE
ELECTIONS ARE ORGANIZED. THE MUZOREWA PAPER
SUGGESTS RICHARD PERSONALLY SUPERVISE THE ELECTIONS AND
RECONVENE THE CONFERENCE THEREAFTER.

6. I WAS IMPRESSED WITH RICHARD'S DESCRIPTION OF
HOW HE INTENDS TO PROCEED. IT IS THE INTENTION
OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION TO ARRIVE AT A CONCLUSION
WHICH WILL STAY WITHIN THE LIMITS OF ANNEX C.
THE FIVE POINTS REMAIN ON THE TABLE AS A BASIS FOR
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DISCUSSION AND IN FACT EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE NOT
FORMALLY ACCEPTED, AS SUCH THE FIVE POINTS ARE EMERGING AS
THE INFORMAL CONFERENCE AGENDA. CATTO

UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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